From: David Jansen
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/16/02 10:14pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

To Whom It May Concern:

I would like to express my concern that the penalties assessed against Microsoft in the recent antitrust proceedings will not be strict enough.

Any settlement that sees Microsoft unfairly increasing it's market share as "pennance" is NOT acceptable to me.

It is my opinion that the only way to keep Microsoft from unfairly "lording" its considerable market share is to break the company into at least two companies; preferably three.

- 1. A distinct and separate Operating System company
- 2. A distinct and separate Applications company
- 3. a distinct and separate Hardware company

Separating the company this way would encourage competition across the board.

Under this plan, Microsoft would not be able to "lord" one division's technologies over it's competitors. A perfect example is that of Apple Computer's new operating system, OS X 10.1. Under the current Microsoft structure, Apple is not able to port its operating system to an Intel/AMD platform for fear of Microsoft retaliating (eg. stopping development of Microsoft Office when so doing could potentially put Apple Computer out of business.)

With each individual "Microsoft" company seeking its own profits, the applications division would be looking to expand it's marketshare by developing software for OTHER operating systems such as Linux and Unix (and any of the individual flavors of each).

The same thoughts apply to the OS division and the hardware division. Microsoft's subdivisions should not be allowed MORE access to the technology behind the operating system/applications/hardware than any other development partner.

Microsoft's recent settlement proposal was a slap in the face to everybody who has ever achieved something by dint of hard work and innovation.

The 300lb gorilla should NOT be allowed to sit wherever it wants.

Thank you for your time,

David Jansen San Jose, CA